REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 10-16, 20-26, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Sharma *et al.* (U.S. Patent Publication No. US 2003/0204645) (hereafter 'Sharma'). In a sincere effort to the move this case forward, Applicants have in this Response amended claims 1, 11, and 21. The amendments clarify that a web services intermediary carries out the actions specified in the second, third, and fourth elements of claims 1, 11, and 21. As will be shown below, Sharma, does not disclose a web services intermediary and as such does not anticipate port type agnostic proxy support for web services intermediaries as claimed in the present application. Claims 1-6, 10-16, 20-26, and 30 are therefore patentable and should be allowed. Applicants respectfully traverse each rejection individually below and request reconsideration of claims 1-6, 10-16, 20-26, and 30.

Claims 7-9, 17-19, and 27-29 stand rejected for *obviousness* under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sharma *et al.*in view of Brittenham *et al.* (U.S. Patent Publication No. US 2002/1078214) (hereafter 'Brittenham'). As will be shown below, neither Sharma nor Brittenham, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggests a method, system, or computer program product for port type agnostic proxy support for web services intermediaries as claimed in the present application. Claims 7-9, 17-19, and 27-29 are therefore patentable and should be allowed. Applicants respectfully traverse each rejection individually and request reconsideration of claims 7-9, 17-19, and 27-29.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102 Over Sharma

Claims 1-6, 10-16, 20-26, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Sharma *et al.* (U.S. Patent Publication No. US 2003/0204645). To anticipate claims 1-6, 10-16, 20-26, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102, Sharma must disclose each and every element and limitation recited in the claims of the present application. As explained below, Sharma does not disclose each and every element and limitation recited

in the claims of the present application and therefore does not anticipate the claims of the present application.

Sharma Does Not Disclose Each and Every Element Of The Claims Of The Present Application

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). As explained in more detail below, Sharma does not disclose each and every element of claim 1, and Sharma therefore cannot be said to anticipate the claims of the present application within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Independent claim 1 as currently amended in this Response recites:

> 1.   A method of port type agnostic proxy support for web services intermediaries, the method comprising:
>
> receiving in a web services intermediary a request for execution of a web services operation, wherein the request includes parametric information from which an endpoint for a target service that supports the operation can be identified;
>
> identifying, by the web services intermediary in dependence upon the parametric data, the endpoint for a target service that supports the operation;
>
> creating, by the web services intermediary, a target service request for execution of the operation on the target service; and
>
> issuing, by the web services intermediary, the target service request to the target service.

Sharma Does Not Disclose Receiving In A Web Services Intermediary A Request For Execution Of A Web Services Operation, Wherein The Request Includes Parametric Information From Which An Endpoint For A Target Service That Supports The Operation Can Be Identified

The Office Action takes the position that Sharma at paragraphs 0007 and 0056, discloses the first element of claim 1: receiving in a web services intermediary a request for execution of a web services operation, wherein the request includes parametric information from which an endpoint for a target service that supports the operation can be identified. Applicants respectfully note in response, however, that what Sharma at paragraph 0007, in fact discloses is:

> [0007] RPC mechanisms are common and are generally implemented in distributed systems where a server offers services to one or more clients. With the growth of the Internet and its use in business-to-business and end-user applications, integrating RPC mechanisms for Web-based applications has gained popularity with distributed system developers. In such applications, a client performing Web-based operations may request and receive information from a Web-based server. Typically, the information is represented in HyperText Markup Language (HTML) and delivered using HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP). HTML encloses data in tags that specify how the delivered information is to be displayed. Although HTML allows servers to present data in specific formats and is still used in Web-based distributed systems, eXtensible Markup Language (XML) is proving to be the Web-based language of choice for distributed system developers. As with HTML, XML encloses data in tags, however, the tags relate to the meaning of the enclosed data. Further, the XML tags are extensible, allowing a user to write their own XML tags using an XML schema language, such as the Document Type Definition (DTD) schema language. The DTD gives XML data its portability. For example, a client that receives an XML document with a defined DTD may process the document according to rules specified within the DTD, thus knowing the document's structure and content type. Also, because an XML document does not include formatting instructions, the document may be published to different types of media.

In addition, what Sharma at paragraph 0056, in fact discloses is:

> [0056] As previously described, an instance of a stub class may represent a client side proxy or a stub instance for a service endpoint. For a client side proxy, client 130 may utilize a dynamic proxy class that supports a

service endpoint interface dynamically at runtime without requiring code generation of a stub class that implements a specific service endpoint interface. The creation of a dynamic proxy may be supported by the getPort method defined in the javax.xml.rpc.Service interface. A serviceEndpointInterface parameter associated with this method may specify the service endpoint interface that is supported by the created dynamic proxy. The dynamic proxy may be used by client 130 to invoke an operation on a target service endpoint defined by server 110.

That is, Sharma at paragraph 0007, discloses a client that performs Web-based operations that may request and receive information from a Web-based server and Sharma at paragraph 0056, discloses a serviceEndpointInterface parameter associated with a method specifying the service endpoint interface that is supported by a created dynamic proxy. Neither Sharma's client that performs Web-based operations that may request and receive information from a Web-based server nor Sharma's serviceEndpointInterface parameter associated with a method specifying the service endpoint interface that is supported by a created dynamic proxy discloses receiving in a web services intermediary a request for execution of a web services operation, wherein the request includes parametric information from which an endpoint for a target service that supports the operation can be identified as claimed in the present application. Sharma does not disclose a web services intermediary as claimed in the present application. A web services intermediary is defined in Applicants' original specification at page 2, lines 14-20 as follows:

A web services intermediary, generally referred to in this specification as an "intermediary," is a web services component that lies between a web services client and a web services provider. Intermediaries operate generally by intercepting a request from a client, providing intermediary services, and then forwarding the client request to a web services provider. Similarly, responses from the web services provider are intercepted, operated upon, and then returned to the client.

Sharma does not disclose at these reference points, or any other reference points, a web services component that lies between a web services client and a web services provider. Instead, Sharma, at Figure 1 for example, only discloses a client and server connected through a network, where the server offers services to the client. Sharma's network is not a web services intermediary as claimed in the present application and as such, Sharma

does not disclose a web services intermediary that lies between Sharma's client and server.

The Office Action also equates Sharma's serviceEndpointInterface parameter with "parametric information" as claimed in the present application. Parametric information as claimed in the present application is used in identifying an endpoint for a target service by a web services intermediary. Sharma's serviceEndpointInterface, however, only specifies a service endpoint interface supported by a dynamic proxy and Sharma's dynamic proxy. That is, Sharma's serviceEndpointInterface is not used by a web services intermediary, but a dynamic proxy, in identifying an endpoint for a target service as claimed in the present application. As such, Sharma's serviceEndpointInterface does not disclose parametric information as claimed in the present application. Because Sharma does not disclose parametric information as claimed in the present application Sharma cannot disclose receiving in a web services intermediary a request for execution of a web services operation, wherein the request includes such parametric information from which an endpoint for a target service that supports the operation can be identified.

In addition to the fact that Sharma does not disclose the first element of claim 1, Sharma also does not disclose the remaining elements of claim 1 of the present application. The second, third, and fourth elements of claim 1 as amended in this Response recite steps of a method that are also carried out by a web services intermediary, including:

> identifying, by the web services intermediary in dependence upon the parametric data, the endpoint for a target service that supports the operation;
>
> creating, by the web services intermediary, a target service request for execution of the operation on the target service; and
>
> issuing, by the web services intermediary, the target service request to the target service.

Because Sharma does not disclose a web services intermediary as claimed in the present application, therefore, Sharma cannot disclose the second, third, or fourth elements of

claim 1. Because Sharma does not disclose each and every element and limitation of Applicants' claims, Sharma does not anticipate Applicants' claims, and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 should be withdrawn.

Relations Among Claims

Independent claims 11 and 21 are system and computer program product claims for port type agnostic proxy support for web services intermediaries corresponding to independent method claim 1 that include "means for" and "means, recorded on [a] recording medium, for:" port type agnostic proxy support for web services intermediaries. For the same reasons that Sharma does not disclose a method for port type agnostic proxy support for web services intermediaries, Sharma also does not disclose systems and computer program products for port type agnostic proxy support for web services intermediaries corresponding to independent claims 11 and 21. Independent claims 11 and 21 are therefore patentable and should be allowed.

Claims 2-10, 12-20, and 22-30 depend respectively from independent claims 1, 11, and 21. Each dependent claim includes all of the limitations of the independent claim from which it depends. Because Sharma does not disclose each and every element of the independent claims, Sharma does not disclose each and every element of the dependent claims of the present application. As such, claims 2-10, 12-20, and 22-30 are also patentable and should be allowed.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 Over Sharma and Brittenham

Claims 7-9, 17-19, and 27-29 stand rejected for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sharma *et al.* (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0204645) in view of Brittenham *et al.* (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/1078214). The question of whether Applicants' claims are obvious *vel non* is examined in light of: (1) the scope and content of the prior art; (2) the differences between the claimed invention and the prior art; (3) the level of ordinary skill in the art; and (4) any relevant secondary considerations, including commercial success, long felt but unsolved needs, and failure of others. *KSR Int'l Co. v. Teleflex Inc.*, 127 S.Ct. 1727, 1729-1730, 82 USPQ 1385 (2007).

Although Applicants recognize that such an inquiry is an expansive and flexible one, the Office Action must nevertheless demonstrate a prima facie case of obviousness to reject Applicants claims for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103. *In re Khan*, 441 F.3d 977, 985-86 (Fed. Cir. 2006). To establish a prima facie case of obviousness, the proposed combination of the references must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations of dependent claims 7-9, 17-19 and 27-29. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 985, 180 USPQ 580, 583 (CCPA 1974). Dependent claims 7-9, 17-19, and 27-29 depend from independent claims 1, 11, and 21 and include all the limitations of the independent claims from which they depend. In rejecting dependent claims 7-9, 17-19, and 27-29, the Office Action relies on Sharma as disclosing each and every element of independent claims 1, 11, and 21. As shown above, Sharma in fact does not disclose each and every element of independent claims 1, 11, and 21. Because Sharma does not disclose each and every element of independent claims 1, 11, and 21, the combination of Sharma and Brittenham cannot possibly disclose each and every element of dependent claims 7-9, 17-19, and 27-29. The proposed combination of Sharma and Brittenham, therefore, cannot establish a prima facie case of obviousness, and the rejections 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Claims 1-6, 10-16, 20-26, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Sharma. Sharma does not disclose each and every element of Applicants' claims. Sharma therefore does not anticipate Applicants' claims. Claims 1-6, 10-16, 20-26, and 30 are therefore patentable and should be allowed. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of claims 1-6, 10-16, 20-26, and 30.

Claims 7-9, 17-19, and 27-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious over Sharma in view of Brittenham. The combination of Sharma and Brittenham does not teach or suggest each and every element of Applicants' claims. Claims 7-9, 17-19, and 27-29 are therefore patentable and should be allowed. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of claims 7-9, 17-19, and 27-29.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 09-0447 for any fees required or overpaid.
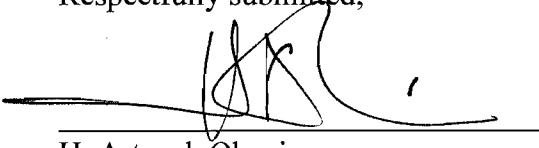
Respectfully submitted,

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